

**TESTIMONY OF JOSE A. SUAREZ BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE TO SERVE AS AN ALTERNATE
ON THE JUDICIAL REVIEW COUNCIL**

Good day Senator Duff, Representative Janowski, Senator Kane, Representative Buck-Taylor and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. My name is Jose A. Suarez and it is my honor and privilege to be nominated as an alternate member of the Judicial Review Council.

My sincere thanks to this Committee for the opportunity to appear before you to express my desire to serve on the Judicial Review Council.

I would like to tell you briefly about my background. I was born in Puerto Rico and lived there until my family moved to Connecticut when I was eleven years old. I earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Dayton and graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1993.

I served the majority of my professional career as an Assistant Attorney General. From 1996 until 2003 I handled child protection matters, and from 2003 until my appointment as a superior court judge, I handled complex Federal Clean Air Act matters in the environmental department of the Office of the Attorney General.

I was appointed a superior court judge in 2009 and since that time it has been my honor and privilege to serve the residents of the State of Connecticut. I have presided over GA matters, family matters, and Part A criminal trials. I am currently sitting as the presiding judge in the Hartford Judicial District Family Division.

The decisions judges make on a daily basis affect people's lives significantly and immediately. It is extremely important that these decisions are made consistently, fairly, respectfully, and in accordance with the law. This is the mindset I strive to bring to the bench each day. I believe the experience I have gained as a criminal and family judge over the past seven years will be valuable to the Judicial Review Council.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I would be grateful and honored if this Committee would deem me worthy and qualified to serve as an alternate member of the Judicial Review Council. I appreciate the Committee's consideration of my nomination and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.